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International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

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Meeting of the States Parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights

Twenty-fourth Meeting

Summary record of the 30th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 8 February 2005, at 10 a.m.

Temporary Chairman: Mr. Ndiaye ..... (Representative of the Secretary-General)
Chairman: Ms. Bahemuka ..... (Kenya)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.30 a.m.

Opening of the Meeting by the representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations

1. **The Temporary Chairman** reviewed developments since the previous meeting of States Parties to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, held on 9 September 2004. At its eighty-second session, the Human Rights Committee had adopted concluding observations on five country reports and had taken 18 final decisions under the Optional Protocol. The Committee had also held its third meeting with States Parties to the Covenant, which had been attended by representatives of over 64 States Parties. The meeting had discussed ways to deal with States Parties that had not reported under the Covenant and requests for interim measures of protection. It had also established procedures for follow-up to the Committee's concluding observations and views under the Optional Protocol. The Committee was also pursuing consultations on the proposals for the reform of treaty bodies contained in the Secretary-General's report on the further reform of the United Nations system.

Election of the Chairperson

2. **Mr. Mekdad** (Syrian Arab Republic) nominated Ms. Bahemuka (Kenya) for the office of Chairperson.

3. *Ms. Bahemuka (Kenya) was elected Chairperson by acclamation.*

4. *Ms. Bahemuka (Kenya) took the Chair.*

Adoption of the agenda (CCPR/SP/64)

5. *The agenda was adopted.*

6. **The Chairperson** noted that, although under rule 2 of the rules of procedure of the Meeting of States Parties, the credentials of representatives and the names of members of a delegation were to be submitted to the Secretary-General if possible not later than one week before the date fixed for the opening of the Meeting, a number of States Parties represented at the Meeting had not yet submitted their credentials. She suggested that, in accordance with rule 3, the representatives of those States Parties should be authorized provisionally to participate in the Meeting and they should ensure that their credentials were submitted to the Secretary-General as early as possible.

7. *It was so decided.*

Election of other officers

8. **The Chairperson** said that Ms. Gjorjieva (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), Ms. Ferry (Monaco) and Mr. Ruckelshaussen (Paraguay) had been nominated for the office of Vice-Chairpersons.

9. *Ms. Gjorjieva (The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), Ms. Ferry (Monaco) and Mr. Ruckelshaussen (Paraguay) were elected Vice-Chairpersons by acclamation.*

Election, in accordance with articles 28 to 34 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to fill a vacancy in the Human Rights Committee for a term expiring on 31 December 2008 (CCPR/SP/65)

10. **The Chairperson** said that, pursuant to article 33, paragraph 2, and article 34, paragraph 1, of the Covenant, the Secretary-General had declared the seat of Ms. Margareta Wadstein (Sweden) vacant following her death, and by a note verbale of 11 November 2004 had invited States Parties to submit nominations to fill that vacancy. Ms. Elizabeth Palm, nominated by Sweden, was the only candidate for the vacancy to be filled. She suggested, therefore, that the secret ballot could be dispensed with and Ms. Palm elected by acclamation.

11. *Ms. Elizabeth Palm (Sweden) was elected a member of the Human Rights Committee by acclamation for a term ending 31 December 2008.*

The meeting rose at 10.50 a.m.